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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 24, 692
LR 74

immunized is that the parents don't see that it is a priority. I voted for LB 24 when it first came up and I think that Senator Suttle has done a great job in this issue, but since we have passed LB 692 I wonder if maybe we should wait a year. We also have a study on LB 692. There is in...when you passed LB 692, there's also some dollars to do a study of the...of the mental health system and the health system of Nebraska. Senator Suttle has introduced LR 74, which is a study that will look at immunization. I really wonder if we should do that study to...and then come back a year from now and see if this is still something that we want to do, that we want to spend \$600,000 to maintain a study (sic--registry) on immunization, or if we should take that \$600,000 and use it elsewhere to promote immunization. I guess what I'm saying is maybe we should wait, go ahead and do the study that Senator Suttle is suggesting in LR 74, which is going to be done by the Health Department, and then see if this is a way we want to go. Now, the dollars going to the department also will enable them to spend more time on this issue and to look at it, but Nebraska is not doing that bad today. If you always look at that curve of what it takes to get from 80 percent to 100 percent, are a lot of dollars, and what are you really achieving by that? Certainly I want every kid immunized. We are also putting out dollars out there in LB 692 to minority health, which hopefully will help even those in minorities to get immunization. So I...I, on this one, will probably stay with the Governor to sustain...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...his veto until after we've had time through LB 692, on that study, time on LR 74, to do that study to find out if that \$600,000 to maintain a registry is going to do anything at all to get more kids immunized. That's really what we want to do. That's the goal, I think, behind LB 24, is to get more kids immunized. How can we do that? Can we do that by maintaining a registry? Can we do that by putting dollars into promotion to get kids immunized? So, with that, I will stick with the Governor on this particular bill and will listen to the rest of the debate and would encourage you to think about where the dollars should be spent. Should they be spent on the registry? Should they be spent perhaps in promoting